

Message Text

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ACTION NASA-04

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, OEXC, UR, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR SPACE AGREEMENT: FUNDING OF VISITS

FOR NASA

1. VERESHCHETIN OF INTERKOSMOS INFORMED EMBASSY JANUARY 3 THAT THE USSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES HOPES FOR AN EARLY RESPONSE TO THE SOVIET MEMORANDUM ON REVISING THE FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR US AND SOVIET SPECIALISTS UNDER THE SPACE COOPERATION AGREEMENT GIVEN MR. FRUTKIN DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO THE USSR.

2. VERESHCHETIN SAID THAT THE SOVIET SIDE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE NASA'S RESPONSE BEFORE THE DEPARTURE OF THE THIRTY-EIGHT MAN SOVIET ASTP DELEGATION TO THE US ON JANUARY 13, IF POSSIBLE. ACCORDING TO VERESHCHETIN, THE CURRENT PER DIEM PROVIDED BY NASA TO SOVIET VISITORS DOES NOT COVER THEIR ACTUAL COSTS. INTERKOSMOS IS, THEREFORE, REQUIRED TO PROVIDE THEIR SPECIALISTS WITH ADDITIONAL US CURRENCY TO MEET THEIR COSTS IN THE US.

3. IF NASA IS NOT ABLE TO AGREE TO THE SOVIET SUGGESTIONS, INTERKOSMOS WILL BE FORCED TO ADHERE STRICTLY TO THE 1971 "AGREEMENT" OF FINANCING VISITORS AND WILL SIMPLY PROVIDE EACH US VISITOR WITH THE EQUIVALENT OF \$25 PER DAY IN RUBLES WHICH, VERESHCHETIN POINTED OUT, WOULD BARELY COVER HOTEL EXPENSES IN THE USSR. SOMMERLATTE

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